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DAY AMONG THE SOLONS

(Continued on Page 16.)

of scientists. The experiment station should institute investigations to increase accurate information regarding the great principles which underlie the growth of plants and animals, and to make new applications of well-known principles in the practical work of the farmer. "That the establishment of this experiment station, long needed here, will be a boon to the agricultural interests of the Territory, goes without saying. Once started and in running order, the agricultural development of the Islands will make rapid advancement."

The first of the above quotations clearly outlines the attitude and policy of the Government which has been in control for the last seven years, relative to minor and diversified industries. The second, taken in connection with the presence in Honolulu of a scientist of established reputation, with means to prepare and equip an experiment station, is ample evidence, at this early stage of our experience, under the conditions created by the Organic Act, that the policy of the Government and country of which we have become an integral part, is a policy diametrically opposed to that which obtained in this community in the past; giving ample promise of a future for this Territory to the fruition of which we may all look forward with the most hopeful anticipations.

Your committee is astonished to find in this report a total absence of data of a reliable character relative to homesteads and homesteaders, a portion of our population, in the welfare of which the community at large is deeply interested, and which is manifestly within the sphere and in a measure under the supervision of the Commissioner of Agriculture. The only reference to homesteads we find is on page 9, under the head of "Diversified Industries," where in a page and a half of rambling dissertation the accomplishments of the Hawaiian colony are set forth. It seems to your committee that in matters of this character what is needed and essential to creating public opinion and interest in any subject, is to direct attention to it by extended use of tables setting forth the various facts, in connection with the subject.

Such tables should show the cost of production, manipulation, preparing for market and marketing. These should be made up entirely from actual experiences of homesteaders in conducting their agricultural experiments. These tables if systematically persisted in would from year to year be a reflex of the success or failure of homesteaders in various enterprises to which they have given their energies. Such tables would furnish the legislator with that absolute information which is necessary properly to judge of the requirements of a given element in the community. Your committee has frequently felt the need of just such information as could be obtained from tables of this character, as no doubt have other members of the Legislature. It is true that in some departments of the Government tabulations are a feature of their reports, but even those that have been made could well be extended and deductions drawn therefrom, which would be extremely valuable to all perusing the same. That which has been done merely emphasizes the necessity of extending this character of work to every department of the Government. As time goes on statistics covering a period

of years become invaluable as an index to and a reflex of conditions present and past, and a guide for legislation in the future.

We find off-hand expressions in the report under review on the experiences of a Mr. Long in the cultivation of vegetables and small fruits. Also a paragraph on the castor bean cultivation by Mr. Koelling, which as indicating the general character of the report we will quote in full:

"At Kaneohe, over the Fall, Mr. C. Koelling has a castor bean plantation, and a mill fitted up with the best of machinery and is very busy manufacturing castor oil, said to be a very good article."

We append to this report a copy of communication sent the Committee on Taxation by this very man; it speaks for itself.

What would interest your committee would be tables, covering possibly the following points: Primarily, the amount paid for the land on the rent paid by Mr. Koelling, as compared with the same expenditures in adjoining lands; next the amount of taxes as compared with adjacent territory; the cost of clearing per acre; the cost of planting, of cultivation and of harvesting; the cost of the plant necessary to the proper expression of oil; number of gallons produced per day; cost of production, of containers, of marketing and so forth, and finally the price realized. These as expenditures and realizations should go with the full information as to the length of season between the planting and harvesting, the amount of beans per acre by weight and the number of gallons of oil produced per ton of beans. Information covering the various operations as above we submit would be of great interest to all residents of the Territory and of special advantage to those desiring to engage in a similar business, and as such would form a valuable basis for the future, when there would be further tables of like import.

Your committee quotes from a report by the Minister of the Interior to the Legislature of 1890, under sub-head "Compilation and Publication of Statistics," as follows:

"Any person who attempts any statistical work of this kind, or to draw conclusions from statistics, which he may obtain, immediately finds that there is a most lamentable lack of material and systematic arrangement." Statistics are frequently invaluable, in deciding public policy and directing a course of action vitally affecting the public welfare, as, for example, statistics affecting the Chinese question; concerning the number and compensation of laborers; concerning immigration, education, health, births and deaths, taxes, and twenty other different things; concerning which accurate information is either not obtainable at all or is available only after laborious and extended preceding search. Almost every nation and colony now keeps and publishes statistics, and I recommend that a Bureau of Statistics be established here and that a reasonable appropriation be made to initiate the work, to all of which your committee, eleven years ago, says a hearty amen!

But why was this work not undertaken at that time? The truth is the planting interests of this country do not want such statistics. Figures do not lie and the correct statistics, if comparatively portraying the conditions of the country, would long ago have revolutionized the conditions which still confront us today. To proceed with our criticism of the matter under review.

The report is taken up in part by sub-reports from the Forestry Department, from Dr. Maxwell on lands adjacent to Hilo, and from the entomologist. Your committee is constrained to the view that as a Bureau of Agriculture and

Forestry Commission has been anything but a success in the sense and purpose for which manifestly it was created. We believe that the diversified industries of the community will be best served by this Legislature lending its financial assistance to the utmost limit possible in furthering the work of the United States Department of Agriculture, as undertaken by Mr. Jared G. Smith, the scientific expert who has been appointed by that Department as director of the Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station. The appropriation at Mr. Smith's command at this time, owing to large initial expenditures for clearing of land, laying on of water, installing pumping plant, and erection of houses for the managing director and his assistant, is inadequate to meet the requirements, if the station is to yield a maximum efficiency in the near future. We have been informed that any assistance from the local Government will simply mean the ability to better mature the plans and promote the results desired in establishing the station in these Islands.

We recommend that in lieu of an appropriation for agriculture and incidentals to the conduct of that office, the Legislature appropriate a sum of not less than \$5,000 per annum as an auxiliary fund to be at the disposal of the said special agent of the Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station for use in the establishment and maintenance of the station during the biennial period for which appropriations are being made.

From personal conversation with Mr. Smith we feel certain that far better results will be manifest from this appropriation for his use than possibly could be hoped for under the system of conducting the bureau at this time.

We include in this recommendation the dispensing with the items in the estimates of appropriations as follows: Pay of Commissioner, \$7,200; pay of gardener, \$2,040; one laborer, Tantalus (new), \$432; one laborer in nursery, \$432; and pay of stenographer and typewriter, \$1,200. Also these changes in the incidentals: Materials, tools, supplies, etc., reducing the amount from \$1,500 to \$500; strike out item of seeds, leaving in the item only collection of seeds and reducing the amount from \$1,500 to \$250; strike out stationery, etc., \$400; advertising and printing, \$150; competitive exhibition, \$1,000; strike out the word "commissioner" from the item traveling expenses, but leave the amount. These will reduce the total of the appropriations for this bureau by \$15,584. We recommend that the appropriation for the entomologist and his expenses be continued as heretofore and the entomologist be requested to lend his assistance in any manner needed to the director of the experiment station.

Believing in the principle of the preservation of vital, commercial and agricultural statistics, that these should be collected monthly or oftener if necessary from the various sources from which the same can be derived, collated and made a part of the report of the Secretary of the Territory, and with the view of permanently establishing a service to that end, and believing that the knowledge and ability of Mr. Wray Taylor peculiarly fits him for the inauguration of this work, we recommend that the item of salary of electoral registrar, under the office of the Secretary of the Territory, be made to read "Salary of registrar of elections and statistical officer, \$5,000; instead of \$1,200."

Forestry.—From the personal observations of your committee, its members believe that the money appropriated for forest extensions is money that has been well spent. It is a pity that a line of work so vital to the agricultural interests of the country at large should have been neglected so completely by the Government as has been this matter of forestry. From the report itself and

from personal knowledge, your committee is prepared to say that there are individuals and corporations in Hawaii which do far more in this matter of forest preservation than does the Government itself. It may be true that self-interest prompts the doing; this, however, does not detract one iota from the public-spiritedness and far-sightedness of the Government to "go and do likewise." We commend the work of H. P. Baldwin on Maui and of the Lihue plantation on Kauai, as being of a character to warrant mention in this connection. Both have spent large sums of money in forest extensions and their efforts are in vivid contrast with those of the Government. From newspaper reports and statements of those conversant with conditions on the Mainland, your committee is led to believe that before the next session of the Legislature the home Government will have made extended inquiry and examination into the subject of forest preservation in this country. Forest preservation and extension and water for irrigation have a most intimate relation the one to the other. Forests undoubtedly are necessary to the determination of rainfall and of holding waters in suspension in reserve, which would otherwise rapidly seek their way to the sea. The preservation and storage of such waters, on the other hand, to the end that they may be utilized for agricultural purposes, should be made a source of revenue to the Government. The return from the use of waters should be sufficient to pay all the expenses of forest extensions and preservation. Your committee believes that the result of the inquiry by the United States Government's experts into the local situation will resolve itself into a solution of the question on the lines here suggested.

While foreign to the subject of forestry, yet intimately connected therewith, your committee wishes to energetically enter its protest against the practice that is being inaugurated here of tunneling into the mountains in order to increase the yield of water from Mother Earth. In every case where such operations are resorted to in a mountain or foothill situation, there can be but one result; the waters held in suspension and oftentimes forming a marshy condition of the soil under natural conditions, will, when a tunnel pierces the strata below them, permit the rapid drainage by percolation, of this water held in suspension, with the gradual result of a settling and packing of the formerly spongy mass, in turn causing a gradual diminution of the supply of water at the tunnel orifice, and a change in the surface condition of the land. The result is that the water instead of finding its way into the soil is carried off by surface drainage, causing in their turn erosions and waste of valuable soil, to say nothing of the final destruction of the forests over the area so drained, thus once again proving the force of the fabled adage, that the goose that lays the golden egg may be killed.

In conclusion we suggest that a transfer be made of the appropriations for public grounds and so forth to the Department of Public Works, and that they be voted as requested.

Respectfully submitted,
JOHN K. PRENDERGAST
WILLIAM MOSSMAN, JR.

We include in this recommendation the dispensing with the items in the estimates of appropriations as follows:
Pay of Commissioner \$7,200
Pay of Gardener 2,040
Pay of Laborer Tantalus (new) 432
Pay of Laborers in Nursery (three men) 1,296
Pay of Laborer 528
Also the changes in the incidentals, materials, tools, supplies, etc., reducing the amount from \$1,500

to 500
Strike out importation of seeds, leaving in the items only collection of seeds and reducing the amount from \$1,500 to 250
Strike out stationery, etc., \$400; advertising and printing, \$150; competitive exhibition, \$1,000; strike out the word "Commissioner" from the item traveling expenses but leave the amount 1,000

S. W. Wilcox, on behalf of the minority, made a report. It reads as follows:

Hon. J. A. Akina, Speaker House of Representatives.

Sir: The undersigned, members of the Committee on Agriculture and Commerce, herewith presents a minority report relating to the items recommended in the Appropriation bill under the head of "Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry," as follows:
Salaries and pay rolls, amounting to \$36,472. Also the items for the expenses of the Commission, amounting to \$7,950. The undersigned agrees with the majority of the committee in regard to the importance of maintaining an experimental station, but does not agree with all the recommendations for reductions in the appropriations made.

It may be that in time the United States experiment station may be developed; that it will not be necessary for the Territory to maintain independent gardens and nurseries, or to continue making experiments in the planting of forests, but, as at present only the first steps have been taken by the Federal Government in this direction, it would seem to be in the public interest that the work being carried on by the Territory should not be discontinued or hampered. Although the efforts made in the past may not have secured the best results in all cases, yet the work which has been done has been of much public interest, that the work should be continued by the Territory until it becomes manifest that it is no longer necessary.

Upon conferring with Mr. Jared S. Smith, the director of the United States experiment station, it has been found that he entertains the views above expressed and does not advocate the discontinuance of the work now being carried on in this line by the Territory.

The undersigned would recommend all of the appropriations asked for under the foregoing heads, with the exception of the item for pay of Commissioner, \$7,200, which he would recommend to be placed at \$5,000; the item for expert forester, \$1,800, which he would recommend be omitted, and the item, "fifteen laborers, Nuuanu forest (ten more men)," \$6,450, and would recommend that the item be passed at "ten laborers, Nuuanu forest (five more men)," \$4,520.

In closing, I would respectfully submit that that part of the report of the majority of the committee which refers to tunneling into the mountain to procure water is foreign to the items in the Appropriation bill which were referred to the committee for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
S. W. WILCOX.
JONAH KUMALAE.

Just before the hour for the noon recess, Speaker Akina had read the article in yesterday morning's Advertiser, which contained the report of the Board of Health and their determination to stop exportating in the tram cars. Akina called the attention of his colleagues to the fact that they were not guiltless of this offense, and asked that they refrain from it in the future.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The payroll of the pilot boat boys was the first item for the afternoon. Dickey moved that the sum of \$9,600

be appropriated for that purpose. He said that the idea of paying boat boys by the month had been broached to them by men House.

Mossman said if the general Maui was employed as a pilot boat would want \$100 a month agreed with him.

Emmeluth said this was like Topsy. In "Uncle Tom's Cabin" a girl was born "just grown." From this marked the development of the pilotage fund. This was which it was best to leave alone. Aylett replied to Home Ruler, saying that no regular salary, and the ing, as now arranged for precarious, to say nothing of the payroll of the pilotage fund. This would be increased according to the amount of the work done. He moved that there be employed, at \$50 per month, before the House, one that prior to \$9,600 be set as a purpose; the other that \$11,120. After much more the latter figures were agreed upon.

The House Ruler began at this point. It was proposed to obtain the salary of the pilotage fund. Beckley forgot something about the "burning trenchment" from McKim, made an amendment to the superintendent of the works, and asked that the speaker be paid \$1,000 for the honor. Makekau said the speaker had an amendment to be thus opening an avenue of changes.

The commissioner of public works the next candidate for the Wednesday the salary had from \$5,400 to \$7,200. The just mentioned wanted to Beckley made the motion.

Mossman grow figurative speech. He said that if were to be secured, it would be to obtain him. It was like head off a fish, and expect to live. To reduce the salary to be equivalent to cutting the fish. The department languish unless an executive secured. The motion to salary to \$5,400 was substituted. The motion was lost.

Dickey moved that the Attorney General of Public Works and made \$7,200.

A motion to adjourn the House stopped at 6 o'clock.

HEAL

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